

Boston, December 26. 1854.

Dear Mr Webb -

I will try this morning to make you at least an imperfect reply to your two Communications - of Nov. 7th, recd. 25th, and 9th Nov. (by private hand to N. York), recd. Dec. 6th.

And first I will say that our Bazaar has been now 5 days open, & has five remaining. In these first five, the receipts have been \$3000., very encouraging - more so than ever before, I believe, certainly more so than any time the past seven years. Whether we shall continue to do so well remains to be ~~seen~~ seen. At the opening of the Bazaar we had, in addition to all the contributions from our own country, four Cases of French articles contributed by Ladies of the Evangelical Churches in Paris, - very beautiful & desirable things they were, - 4 cases collected in Paris by Mrs. Chapman & her friends (2 cases of which, between us, were rendered valueless by the almost complete destruction by breakage of every article in them), one case of very beautiful & attractive things from Stuttgart in Germany, two cases of Swiss fancy articles sent to Mrs. Stowe and by her contributed to the Bazaar to aid the Anti-Slavery ^{Trade} Fund (for gratuitous distribution), and one case of articles from Baden Baden collected & sent by American residents there. These from the Continent. Then we had one large Case from Bristol, one box from Bridgewater, one from Manchester ^{and} ~~two~~ from Leeds in England, and two boxes from your beautiful city. These were the whole, and had not the European Continent come so handsomely

to our rescue, we should not have had
goods enough to cover the tables in the large new
rooms we had hired in one of the most central
and eligible situations in the city. There was nothing
at all from Scotland, ~~with the~~ The three cases
from London, the two from Bury, the one from
Cork, the one from Belfast, ~~and~~ the always
elegant & valuable collections from Glasgow,
Edinburgh, & Perth, ^{all of which we knew to be on the way, had not} come to hand! This was
a sore disappointment to the Managers
of the Bazaar, and to ~~the great majority of~~
the visitors and buyers generally, who have
become well acquainted with the substantial
excellence and value, as well as beauty, of the
~~donations~~ ^{goods} from those places. The reason of their
non-arrival you have doubtless already
conjectured, viz. that your Government took
possession of the Ship which was to have brought
them from Liverpool to Boston, and sent her with
troops to the seat of the War with Russia. So, even
in an Antislavery Bazaar we felt, remotely, the
effects of the War in the East. You will perceive
therefore that the success of the Bazaar, hitherto,
is all the more remarkable, because won ~~even~~
without the help of those donations on which
~~the~~ the Managers have always greatly
relied. We are not wholly without hope
that some of the goods may yet get into the
Bazaar before it closes, five days hence. The

ship America arrived yesterday,
containing about half of the expected goods;
and if, in the little time that remains, the ship
can be unladen, and the goods passed through the
Customhouse, so as to have even one or two days
for their exhibition & sale, ~~then~~ we shall all be
much comforted, & the Bazaar greatly aided.

The boxes from London, by a great mistake on
the part of the Liverpool shipping-agent, were
put on board a sailing-vessel (the *Triumphant*)
which has not arrived, and is not likely to arrive
for weeks yet, and therefore they can give no
aid to the present Bazaar; but there will be
little difficulty in making them helpful to the
cause, in other ways.

You have heard of the arrest of our friends
Wendell Phillips and Theodore Parker, by the
United States Authorities, for their condemnation in
Faneuil Hall of the Kidnapping of Anthony Burns.
They will doubtless have a magnificent triumph
over their prosecutors: the Cause will certainly
triumph, even if despotism should succeed in
fining & imprisoning them. They & their personal
friends are not troubled by the prosecution, nor
fearful of its results either to them, or to the cause
of Liberty. The course of the U. S. Government
in the matter meets with almost unanimous
condemnation, even here in conservative, ~~hard-hearted~~
Slave-law-obeying Boston.

I was exceedingly sorry at what you saw
of the Manchester Conference - its mismanage-
ment pecuniarily, & the debt thrown on the
Ladies Society there. I hoped great results from
that meeting, and I still cannot think but that
the large amount of plain & bold truths told
there will prove goodseed sown in many
a fertile place. So may it be, - I did not
look for any great Organization, ^{to result from it,} or any one great
visible movement, of which men would say, Lo here
or Lo there; but I believed, & still I believe, that
it must powerfully tend to enlarge the Kingdom
which is within us. And I am all the more
sorry that it should have been so conducted,
as to entail a debt - always a troublesome
thing, and a sad drawback on the satisfaction
which would otherwise result.

On the other hand, I was greatly comforted
at the abundant assurances you gave, in
yours of Nov. 7th, that there ~~was~~ ^{is} no danger at
all that the British friends of the American
A.S. Society will get into any entangling alliance
with the B. & F. Committee in Broad Street.
That is all I feared, that in the simplicity of
your hearts (forgive me if for thinking you in any
danger, but even "the elect" may almost be deceived
you would get, in some way, so far committed
with, and under engagements to, the Broad Street
Committee, that your perfect freedom of action &
criticism, towards them in particular, and the
conduct of the cause generally, would be
impaired. That any of you would become

Sectarious and bitter in spirit & feeling (as
 our best of friends Mary Estlin seemed to think
 was my difficulty) - so far from being any source
 of trouble to me, never once entered my thoughts;
 nor can I now conceive of it as a possible thing!
 I suspect our good Mary E. meant to quiz me a little,
 for being so frightened before I was hurt. I heartily
 forgive her, if for nothing else, for the excellence of the
 joke! To think of you, & her father, & of herself, as
 becoming Sectarious and narrow in feeling! If I
 kept ^{a life's wealth} ~~an~~ insurance office, I should feel safe in
 insuring you all from that malady, for the rest of
 your natural lives, for a penny. - But I don't
 want you trammelled; I don't want you even
 to be under any obligation to ^{the} Broad St. Committee.
 Towards Mr. Channerozow, I have no such feeling. He
 thinks, I understand, that we do not judge
 him by his acts. I believe he is quite mistaken
 in this - so far as I am concerned, he certainly
 is. I will not deny that Pillsbury may have
 been too hard upon him; but I think more
 stress has been given to what P.P. said than
 was called for. - On the whole, I am pretty
 sure that a great deal too much has been
 said on the matter, so far as Mr. Cham^{you} is concerned.
 And I owe you, & the Estlins, perhaps, an apology
 for being ever troubled as to the firmness of your
 foothold; and if I owe it, I pay it with all
 my heart,

I will only say, in conclusion of this subject, for the present, that I do most heartily agree with you as to the value of a union with the New England folks, even if it could be had, which I also think, with you, cannot be. Possibly all may meet together, now & then, in large & general meetings and pass some cautiously-worded resolves, not at all what the exigencies of the cause need. But the best way for you to infuse any life into that old association, and ~~the~~ ^{and kindle again in it any antislavery life,} many auxiliaries, is to preserve your own independent position, and fearlessly tell all the antislavery truths you know, and relentlessly expose all unfaithfulness and all dereliction ^{on the part of churches, sects, parties, & individuals,} of duty, and show the way of salvation from this enormous sin and its consequences. You will ~~then~~ ^{thus} have, then, a power ~~of~~ over the antislavery heart and conscience of your Nation that you ^{never} can have ~~from~~ ⁱⁿ any other way, and you will be the means of calling out a power that never can be gathered into any mere association. Pardon my speaking so plainly. I do not mean to assume any right to point out your path, only to state my own convictions.

I have just had an opportunity to glance at George Thompson's newspaper, The Empire. Long may he live & flourish, & greatly succeed in

effort for Humanity and Right,
And now for a little business:

At your request, I have directed the
Liberator for W. S. Pryer to be stopped.

As to Wm. Shortt's payments for the Lib.
By your acct, rec'd by me April 16. 1854, I find
that Wm. Shortt paid you, March 1. 1854, 12/6; and
I also find that this was duly paid to R. F. Wallcut,
as his books show; but even this only pays up to
January 1. 1852, as you will see by Mr. Wallcut's
Statement accompanying this. ~~So you have nothing~~
~~the £1. which you say, in yours, of Nov. 9, that he has since paid to~~
~~of Mr. Shortt in your hands, unless he has paid~~
~~you, & which you are to include in next account, will pay up~~
~~you something since March 1. 1854.~~
~~his paper to January 1st 1854.~~

The Finance Comtee of the Liberator, as you
will have notices, are endeavoring to limit the
credit given for the paper. Hereafter no papers
will be sent where the subscribers are owing for
more than a year; but this rule would, I presume,
not be held applicable strictly to foreign subscribers,
who cannot remit money easily & often.
(of Bath)

As to Mr. Cotterell's subscription, - concerning
which you say you "do not understand what
I say about it," - it is simply as follows:

In a letter rec'd from you sometime in ~~Sept~~
1853, ~~you~~ (I have not the letter at hand to refer to its
date) you mentioned having rec'd. a payment from
Mr. Cotterell of Bath, & asked me to pay the same
to Mr. Wallcut. I did so - paying to Mr. ~~Cotterell~~
Wallcut, for Mr. Cotterell, 26 Aug. 1853, as both an

accounts show, two dollars & a half. I paid
this sum, because you had not told me in
your letter what you had recd. from Mr. C.
nor what I was to pay to Mr. W., but only
said you had recd. a year's subscription; and
therefore I paid \$2.50, the regular subscription.
Four months later, viz. Dec. 16, 1853, I received
your account in full for the year, and there
I found $12/6$ (or \$3.) set down as recd by
you from Mr. Cotterell. Without looking
carefully enough into the matter, & comparing
the account with your letter recd. in August,
I concluded that this was a 2^d payment of
Mr. Cotterell's, and accordingly paid Mr.
Wallcut \$3. in addition to the 2.50 previously
paid. I have therefore paid, for Mr. Cotterell,
\$5.50, when I should have paid \$3. only, thus
leaving \$2.50 due to me, which I have not received
from you, nor any one, and am content to wait
(having made the blunder) until Mr. Cotterell pays
his 2^d year subscription to you. — Mr. Wallcut, at the
matter stands, retains the 5.50 as from Cotterell; so when
you receive his 2^d $12/6$ (or \$3.) I will pay myself $10/6$
(or \$2.50), & to R. F. W. 2 shillings (or 50 cts), thus making it
all square. — You will see that R. F. W. credits Mr. Cotterell to
Jan. 1, 1855.

I also send such a statement, from Mr. Wallcut
of the state of the accounts of ~~the several~~ Liberator's subscribers
in England & Ireland, as you expressed a wish to have.

In great haste & great regard, sincerely, S. May